

S.N. 10/029,311  
Atty Docket No. 13DV14196

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Confirmation No. 3494  
Gary E. WHEAT et al : Group Art Unit: 1763  
Serial No.: 10/029,311 : Examiner: Richard R. BUEKER  
Filed: December 20, 2001 :  
For: GAS DISTRIBUTOR FOR VAPOR COATING  
METHOD AND CONTAINER

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**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37  
CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98 (PRIOR TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION)**

Mail Stop 313(c)  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request the Examiner to make of record the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449 form. Copies of the listed documents that are not U.S. patent documents are also enclosed. In accordance with MPEP 609, the Examiner is requested to initial the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449 form in the space provided, make a copy of the initialed form, and return the copy to Applicants' attorney. This paper and the enclosed documents are being submitted in accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(b)(4), i.e., after the filing of a request for continued examination and prior to a first Office Action on the merits.

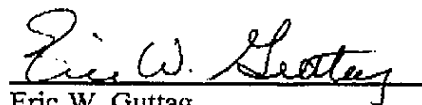
The documents listed on the attached PTO-1449 form came to Applicants' attorney's attention as a result of a European Search Report (copy enclosed) for the European patent application corresponding to the above application. U.S. Patent 4,148,275 listed in the enclosed European Search Report was previously cited by Applicants. The relevance of the listed documents to the claims of the corresponding European patent application is indicated at page 2 of the enclosed European Search Report.

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With regard the copies of the documents that are not in English, Applicants are submitting enclosed English abstracts of these documents. Applicants submit that the submission of these English abstracts, as well as the enclosed European Search Report that refers to these documents, satisfies the "concise explanation" requirement of 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(i)

Respectfully submitted,

For Gary E. WHEAT et al



Eric W. Guttag

Attorney for Applicants

Reg. No. 28,853

(513) 229-0383

Customer Number 31838

November 19, 2003



PH 5618 Patentamt 2  
2200 HV Rijswijk (NL)  
T +31 70 340 2040  
TX 31651 epo nl  
FAX +31 70 340 3016

Europäisches  
Patentamt

Zweigstelle  
in Den Haag  
Forschung  
Abteilung

European  
Patent Office

Branch at  
The Hague  
Search  
division

Office européen  
des brevets

Département a  
La Haye  
Division de la  
recherche

Goode, Ian Roy  
London Patent Operation  
General Electric International, Inc.  
15 John Adam Street  
London WC2N 6LU  
GRANDE BRETAGNE

U.S. Pending  
M. Bischoff

10.11.2003

Datum/Date  
10.11.03

Zeichen/Ref./Ref. 130V-14196/9117	Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°/Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°. 02258746.3-2119-
Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY	

## COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits as an enclosure the European search report for the above-mentioned European patent application.

If applicable, copies of the documents cited in the European search report are attached.

☐ Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

The following specifications given by the applicant have been approved by the Search Division:

☒ abstract ☐ title

☐ The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to this communication.

The following figure will be published together with the abstract: 3

## REFUND OF THE SEARCH FEE

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.





European Patent  
Office

# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 02 25 8746

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 006, no. 238 (E-144), 26 November 1982 (1982-11-26) & JP 57 138128 A (TOKYO SHIBAURA DENKI KK), 26 August 1982 (1982-08-26) * abstract *	1, 4	C23C16/455 C23C10/06 C23C16/448
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 016, no. 093 (C-0917), 6 March 1992 (1992-03-06) & JP 03 277325 A (TOSHIBA CORP), 9 December 1991 (1991-12-09) * abstract *	1, 4	
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 010, no. 217 (E-423), 29 July 1986 (1986-07-29) & JP 61 054617 A (FUJITSU LTD), 18 March 1986 (1986-03-18) * abstract *	1, 2	
Y		5-10	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
Y, D	US 4 148 275 A (BENDEN ROBERT S ET AL) 10 April 1979 (1979-04-10) * column 3, line 16 - line 51 *	5-10	C30B C23C
Y	US 3 778 298 A (KANETAKE N ET AL) 11 December 1973 (1973-12-11) * column 3, line 34 - line 56; figure 4 *	5-10	
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1997, no. 12, 25 December 1997 (1997-12-25) & JP 09 213648 A (SANYO ELECTRIC CO LTD), 15 August 1997 (1997-08-15) * abstract *	1-10	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		3 November 2003	Ekhuft, H
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background D : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>1 : theory or principle underlying the invention C : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

# ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

EP 02 25 8746

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

03-11-2003

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
JP 57138128	A	26-08-1982	NONE	
JP 03277325	A	09-12-1991	NONE	
JP 61054617	A	18-03-1986	NONE	
US 4148275	A	10-04-1979	US 4132816 A	02-01-1979
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (use as many sheets as necessary)				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	10/029,311
				Filing Date	12/20/2001
				First Named Inventor	G. E. WHEAT et al.
				Art Unit	1763
				Examiner Name	R. R. BUEKER
				Attorney Docket Number	13DV14196
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)				
		US-	3,778,298	12/11/1973	Kanetake et al.	
		US-	4,148,275	04/10/1979	Benden et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	To
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)					
		JP 09213648		08/15/1997	Sanyo Electric Co. Ltd.		Abstract only
		JP 61054617		03/18/1986	Fujitsu Ltd.		Abstract
		JP 03277325		12/09/1991	Toshiba Corp.		Abstract
		JP 57138128		08/26/1982	Toshiba Corp.		Abstract

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s) volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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(PTO/SB/08 06/03)